

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-14-26
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group (DEHPG)

Mr. Ray Hanley, Director
Arkansas Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Services
Donaghey Plaza South
P.O. Box 1437, Slot 1100
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437

Dear Mr. Hanley:

I am pleased to inform you that your request to amend the Arkansas home and community-based services waiver for children with physical disabilities has been approved. This amendment has been given the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services control number **0364.01**.

This amendment allows respite caregivers or school secretaries, to whom registered nurses have delegated authority, to administer medication to the children receiving services under this waiver. Arkansas has explained that this allowance is an exception to Arkansas requirements that only permits nurses and parents to administer medication to children. This exception is allowed by the "School Nurse Roles and Responsibilities Practice Guidelines" which can now be found on pages 35a through 35i as an attachment to the approved waiver document.

Arkansas has indicated that this amendment is required in order to comply with the Arkansas State's Nurse Practice Act and that the changes with this amendment are consistent with the views of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, the Parent Advisory Council to Children's Medical Services, and the Arkansas Department of Health Services' legal counsel. Arkansas has assured us that this waiver amendment does not impose any additional financial costs for the waiver.

Based upon the information provided, we approve your amendment request to incorporate these changes into this Arkansas waiver, effective October 1, 2001.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Duckett
Director
Division of Benefits, Coverage, & Payment

cc: Dallas RO

